

State of Vermont
Department of Libraries
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609--0601

Tel: 802-828-3265
Fax: 802-828-2199

Agency of Administration

BOOKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Reviewed on "Across the Fence" on WCAX

Monday, December 5, 2011 12:10

**by Amy Howlett, Vermont Department of Libraries,
Victoria Tibbits, Westford Public Library, and Judy Simpson of WCAX**

Birdsall, Jeanne. **THE PENDERWICKS AT POINT MOUETTE**. ISBN 978-0-3758-5851-2.
2011 \$16.95. Hardcover. Grade 4 and up.

The youngest Penderwick girls are on vacation with friend Jeffrey and Aunt Claire. A quiet old-fashioned family story with excitement and emotional depth.

Bohjalian, Chris. **THE NIGHT STRANGERS**. Crown, 2011. \$25.00. ISBN 978-0-3073-9499-6. Hardcover. Fiction

A riveting ghost story begins when a Vermont family flees their past to settle into the peace of an old Victorian in New Hampshire. Hang onto your chair! Fiction.

Galdone, Paul. **THE THREE BEARS**. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1972. \$8.99. ISBN 978-0-547-37019-4. Hardcover. Preschool - Grade 3. Picture.

Goldilocks and the three bears, with perfect illustrations. We are never too young or too old for a classic tale like this one.

Grahame-Smith, Seth. **ABRAHAM LINCOLN, VAMPIRE HUNTER**. Grand Central, 2010. \$21.99. ISBN 978-0-4465-6308-6. Hardcover. Grand Central, 2011. ISBN 978-0-446-56307-9. \$13.99. Paper. Teen – Adult fiction

Lincoln's life through the lens of vampire hunting. Lincoln's many tragedies and challenges are rooted in a sinister plot by certain vampires to rule the United States.

Hertzberg, MD, Jeff and Zoe Francois. **ARTISAN BREAD IN FIVE MINUTES A DAY**. St. Martin's Press, 2007. ISBN 978-0-3123-6291-1. \$27.99. Hardcover. Nonfiction.

The title says it all! This method results in delicious, crusty bread with minimal effort and skills. Yum!

Holland, Mary. **NATURALLY CURIOUS**. Trafalgar Square Books, 2010. ISBN: 978-1-5707-6425-7. \$39.95. Paper. Nonfiction.

Vermont author, Mary Holland, has created a useful and beautiful month-by-month look at the natural world of New England. Gorgeous photographs and informative side-bars.

Johnson, Craig. **JUNKYARD DOGS**. Viking, 2010. \$25.95. ISBN 978-0-6700-2182-6. Hardcover. Penguin, 2011. \$14.00. ISBN 978-0-1431—1953-1. Paper. Fiction.

Walt Longmire is the laconic sheriff who makes the Montana mystery series sparkle. Dogs, geezers, a '68 Toronado and some surprising money making schemes.

Messner, Kate. **OVER AND UNDER THE SNOW**. Chronicle Books, 2011. \$16.99. ISBN 978-0-8118-6784-9. Hardcover. Preschool - Grade 3 Picture.

A girl and her dad cross country ski through woods and fields, talking about the animals active around them: deer mice, queen bee, fox, and chipmunk. Nature in winter.

Price, Catherine. **101 PLACES NOT TO SEE BEFORE YOU DIE**. Harper, 2010. \$13.99. ISBN 978-0-0617-8776-8. Paperback. Teen – adult nonfiction.

A book for snacking over the holidays—pick it up, read a few to yourself or out loud, and enjoy the snarky humor. Plus, who doesn't love lists? Perfect for teens and up.

Strohmeyer, Sarah.. **KINDRED SPIRITS**. Dutton, 2011. \$25.95. ISBN 978-0-5259-5222-0. Hardcover. Fiction.

Vermont author Strohmeyer pictures three long-time women friends and the mission they undertake for their dead companion. Just for fun, martini recipes included.

Telegemeier, Raina. **SMILE**. Graphix, 2010. \$10.00. ISBN 978-0-545-13206-0. Paper. Grades 5-7.

A graphic novel of dental trauma and healing following a face-first fall which severely injures the author's front teeth. Add middle school, first crushes, and self-discovery.

Tullet, Herve. **PRESS HERE**. Handprint Books, 2010. \$14.99. ISBN 978-0-8118-7954-5. Hardcover. Birth - Preschool.

This clever and beautifully designed book is powered by the reader. Follow instructions to yield fun and surprising results. Wonderful antidote to electronic entertainment.

Willems, Mo. **HAPPY PIG DAY!** Hyperion Books, 2011. \$8.99. ISBN 978-1423-14342-0. Preschool - Grade 1. Picture.

It's Happy Pig Day – Piggie's favorite day of the year – and Gerald, her elephant friend – is feeling left out. After all, an elephant can't celebrate Happy Pig Day, can he?



This publication is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency, through the Library Services and Technology Act.